

# NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service  
Santa Fe National Forest



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## SANTA FE NATIONAL FOREST AND VALLES CALDERA NATIONAL PRESERVE TO LIFT FIRE RESTRICTIONS

(Santa Fe, NM)—Fire officials announced today the end to Stage I fire restrictions on the Santa Fe National Forest and Valles Caldera National Preserve effective Wednesday, June 4. The decision was reached based on recent rain, weather forecasts, and regional and national fire planning levels.

Santa Fe National Forest officials met with neighboring Carson and Cibola forests, other federal, state and county fire managers this afternoon to discuss the fire conditions and termination of fire restrictions. Despite several small fire starts fire officials at the Santa Fe National Forest contend that the threat of large fire is minimal. “We’ve received measurable rain in many areas of the Forest, and fire danger is below normal,” said Fire Management Officer, Paul Orozco. The Stage I Fire Restrictions imposed May 21 prohibited fires outside of developed areas in the forest. Since that time weather conditions have become more favorable, and the threat of large fires has decreased.

“We ask that everyone take responsibility of their campfires and continue to work with us to keep the Santa Fe National Forest safe from catastrophic fire,” added Orozco.

If you have a campfire, please abide by the following rules:

- **Build campfires away from overhanging branches, steep slopes, rotten stumps, logs, dry grass, pine needles and leaves. Pile extra wood away from the fire;**
- **Clear the area down to bare soil;**
- **Keep your campfire safe and small, especially when it’s windy;**
- **Never leave your campfire unattended;**
- **Drown the fire with water & dirt, stir remains, add more water and dirt, and stir again. Do not bury your coals as they can smolder and re-ignite later**
- **Make sure your fire is *dead out* before leaving.**

Additional fire information can be obtained at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/fire>. For other fire restrictions on public lands in the southwest, call toll free 1-877-864-6985. To report a fire, call (505) 438-7800.

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